

# Pam Fischer: Making Plans for the Future

By NATALIE HALL  
Press-Herald Staff Writer

Pam Fischer has made up her mind to go water skiing Memorial Day, May 30. And that's an ambitious goal for an 18-year-old accident victim who's spent the past three months in the hospital with severe burns and broken bones.

The experience hasn't broken Pam's spirit, though, and she's determined to leave the hospital as soon as possible and resume normal life. Including water skiing! The spunky Torrance teenager is already looking ahead to college in the fall, with hopes of majoring in psychology, and she has plenty of ideas about what to do with her time until then.

Already an accomplished seamstress, Pam has decided to take up cooking and help her mother prepare meals during the months she'll spend recovering at home. The blue-eyed brunette says she'll work on her wardrobe during her leisure hours, too.

Pam nearly lost her life in a traffic accident last Nov. 4 when her small foreign car collided with a

dump truck on Van Ness Avenue. She's been recuperating at Little Company of Mary Hospital ever since.

After many skin graft operations to replace the burned areas on her legs and back, Pam will probably be going home within a week.

In a personal interview with the Press-Herald, the petite Torrance High graduate bemoaned the fact that she had just finished paying for her car, the insurance, and a new paint job when the accident happened. The car was totally demolished and gutted by flames.

Next time, Pam says, she will get a full-sized car.

Helping put herself through college, Pam was on her way to a Gardena drug store where she worked as a salesgirl when her car collided head-on with the truck. She was a part-time student at El Camino College at the time, but will return as a full-time student in September. Pam hopes to finish her college work later at a four-year school.

Encoined in billowy white sheets in her second-floor hospital room, Pam hopes to leave for home as soon as her latest skin graft operation heals. She can sit up for brief periods now, and looks forward to short rides in a wheel chair, although she quips that

preparations for a wheel chair ride usually take longer than the ride itself.

With her hair tied back with an orange ribbon, Pam spends her days exercising, reading, snoozing, and watching television. Her favorite shows are the Nine O'Clock Movie, the Newlywed Game, Dating Game, and other contest programs.

"I don't usually like soap operas," Pam pipes, "but I almost got interested in 'General Hospital' last week!"

Practically a native of Torrance, Pam has lived here most of her life, attending Howard Wood Elementary School. At Torrance High, Pam was voted "Miss Sophomore."

In her senior year, she was named "Miss Fashion" as the best dressed girl on campus. Pam designs and sews many of her own outfits.

Pam's sparkling personality and attractiveness placed her among the top 15 contestants for Homecoming Queen.

Spare time activities included swimming and sunning at the beach, in addition to her interests in sewing and water skiing.

What has Pam missed most while at the hospital? Her pets (a dog and a cat) and good home cooking! She describes hospital food as "good, but . . ."

A big treat for Pam is to have her father, Lieutenant Mickey Fischer, barbeque a steak or a hotdog and bring it over to her at the hospital!

Lt. Fischer has been with the Torrance Police Department since 1947. The Fischers have two other children, David, 22, and Jeff, 20.

Pam is overwhelmed by the community response to her plight. A theatre group and a rock 'n' roll band have each given a benefit performance for her, and a group of Torrance businessmen have set up a fund for her at Imperial Bank. Civic groups have also come to her aid and local residents are being asked to give \$1 contributions. A lucky ticket-holder will be given a color television set.

"I think it's just marvelous," Pam said of the benefit program. "Everyone is being so helpful. Especially when you're down and hurt, they always seem to come through!"

"There's no way I can pay them back, but I'm awful grateful. It just seems impossible, all this help and stuff!"

## Torrance Press-Herald

### TO CALL US

Circulation Office ..... DA 5-1515  
Advertising ..... DA 5-6060  
Women's News ..... DA 5-6380  
News Department ..... DA 5-6060

### INSIDE TODAY

Ann Landers ..... C-1 Profile ..... C-1  
Count Marco ..... C-1 Sports ..... C-8  
Editorials ..... C-2 Women's News ..... B-1  
Obituaries ..... A-4 Want Ads ..... D-1

Published semi-weekly, Wednesday and Friday, by King Williams Press, Inc. Entered as second class matter January 20, 1914, at Post Office, Torrance, California, Under Act of March 3, 1879.

Series II, Volume V, Number 67



3238 Sepulveda Blvd., Torrance, Calif. 90510 — Wednesday, February 19, 1969

10c Per Copy

By Carrier 50c Per Month  
By Mail, \$18 Per Year

48 Pages



**CHAMBER DAY** . . . Torrance Mayor Albert Isen (center) gets a look at membership plaques to be given new members of the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce after proclaiming next Tuesday as Chamber of Commerce Day in the city. Displaying the membership plaques are George Ebert (right), president of the local Chamber, and J. Walker Owens, executive vice president. A day-long open house welcoming new members has been scheduled at the Jump 'n Jack Restaurant. (Press-Herald Photo)

## Airport Rated Potential Money-Maker for City

(This final article in the Press-Herald series about the Torrance Municipal Airport deals with the question of leasing of airport property to nonaeronautical firms and the prospects for realizing a greater profit from these leases in future years.)

Would it be feasible for aeronautical revenues to finance the functions of the Torrance Municipal Airport, leaving other lease revenues available to fatten the city's general fund?

Two city officials this week expressed differing viewpoints on this subject.

City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier looks forward to the day when the local airport will actually make money for the city.

Assistant Airport Manager William Critchfield, on the other hand, says it isn't realistic to expect aeronautical revenues to support a general aviation airport.

IN RECENT years, the Torrance Municipal Airport has shown annual surpluses of roughly \$20,000. However, these surpluses are realized only because many acres of airport land are leased to companies with no aeronautical function, such as car agencies, markets, and theaters.

In fiscal 1967-68, a total of \$197,543 was netted from airport leases—both aeronautical and nonaeronautical—and the lion's share of that sum came

from the nonaeronautical leases. Some 40 acres are leased to industrial firms and another 33 acres to commercial firms. This acreage is located along prime frontage, Pacific Coast Highway and Crenshaw Boulevard, primarily.

COMMUNITY observers who

have been following the development of the municipal airport in recent years have asked themselves why this lease money hasn't been channeled into city coffers in order to benefit the city more directly. Some even view the present financial arrangement as a form of subsidy for the airport, even

Station, and PTA officers will join Dr. Lucas on the stand.

**MAJ. ROBERT KINGSBURY** of Ft. MacArthur will give a narration, "Echoes of the Distant Drum Beat" to a pageant of uniforms dating from the Civil War period to the present day. These uniforms will be worn by a unit of 20 Special Forces (Green Beret) men and accompanied by the 44-man 72nd Army Band.

The Naval Training Center in San Diego will present a six-man color guard, while Drillmaster R. J. May directs a drill team that won the Army's "Best Military Drill Team" laurels. "The Historical Development of the Flag" will be the Marine Corps' theme, as they commemorate the 24th anniversary of the raising of the American

flag on Iwo Jima. Acting out the colorful story of America will be Marines from the Sea School in San Diego.

**MAJ. GEN. E. M. Nichol Jr.**, vice commander of March Air Force Base, has arranged for a demonstration of four sentry dog teams consisting of nine Air Force men as handlers, agitators and suitmen. The invocation will be given by Senior Post chaplain, Lt. Col. James H. Fiser of Ft. MacArthur, and the Army ROTC unit from Jordan High School will present the Colors and a drill team.

A reception for veterans and military guests will follow the program in the school's cafeteria. Other Torrance organizations who have given assistance to this program include the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce and the American Legion.

## Five Local Residents Aboard Missing Plane

### Attorneys Clash Over Length of Nollac Hearings

The question of whether a protracted hearing is a just hearing, regardless of the outcome, was raised at Monday's session of the Civil Service Commission hearing against Walter M. Nollac, suspended city engineer.

Walter Young, attorney for Nollac, claimed the opposition is burdening the record with lengthy testimony, and castigated the "liberality" of Commission Chairman Larry Bowman in permitting the opposition to prolong the hearings.

The attorney then turned around and said that Bowman is "trying to be as fair as possible" in the way he is conducting the hearings.

**YOUNG ALSO** criticized the opposition lawyer, Walter Anderson, for failing to show him evidence documents in advance, thereby causing an additional delay. Young said that the trial is too long to be fair to Nollac, who has been suspended from his duties since mid-December.

Attorney Anderson denied the charge that he failed to provide Young with documents in advance, then stated that it was "repetitive cross-examination" on the part of the defense that was prolonging the hearings.

Bowman stated that the commission doesn't have the authority to force Anderson to provide documents to Young in advance. He added that he frankly doesn't know whether the length of the hearings could legally be found unjust to Nollac, but conceded it was a possibility.

**THE HEARINGS** have already consumed about 20 hours of commission time and no end is in sight. Bowman said the commission can't find the time

(See NOLLAC, Page A-2)

### Three File For School Balloting

Three persons—including two incumbents—have filed papers to become candidates for the Torrance Board of Education in the April 15 school election.

A fourth man has picked up nomination papers, but has not returned them to the County Registrar of Voters.

Incumbents Burton Belzer and Bert M. Lynn have filed nomination papers, it was learned yesterday. Lynn is seeking his third term on the board, while Belzer, appointed to the board last year, will be seeking his first full term.

John Kirby also has filed nomination papers. Kirby was an unsuccessful candidate two years ago. He ran third in a field of seven at that time, with two seats open on the board.

Stanley Dunn has taken out nomination papers, but had not returned them Tuesday afternoon.

Tomorrow at 5 p.m. is the deadline for filing nomination papers. Three seats are at stake.

Deadline for voters to register to be eligible to vote in the April 15 election also is tomorrow.



**J. H. PAGET**  
Aboard Aircraft

### It's a Short 'Trip'

By **DOUG HUFF**  
Press-Herald Staff Writer

When the little black box with the funny-looking "plunger" began to play music, Carson Sheriff's deputies decided it wasn't going to go "boom" if they paid a "friendly" visit to the holder of it as he swung gently to and fro in the lonely gondola.

And so ended a two-hour vigil by a platoon of deputies, three squads of firemen, a bomb squad, newsmen, and unnerved Goodyear Airship officials Monday night.

It also ended the nation's first known attempt to hijack a Goodyear blimp and plans of a long-haired hippie vegetarian who had wanted to go not to Cuba, but to a rock and roll festival in Aspen, Colo.

**TODAY** he is in the USC-County Medical Center's Unit Three (Mental Ward) for observation at close range, not from a pair of binoculars as had earlier been the case.

The "trip" all began at 6:20 p.m. Monday when the youth—his real name still is not known—casually strolled down the ramp to the blimp.

Jim R. Genet, 26, of 1842 Plaza del Amo, Torrance, was standing guard duty. Genet went to the door and asked the intruder what was up.

Showing him the little black box, the hippie, known only as "George Harrison," warned

(See BLIMP, Page A-8)

### Massive Search Under Way for Missing Craft

Five Torrance residents, including a former Torrance Distinguished Citizen Award winner, are reported aboard a missing chartered DC-3 plane somewhere in the stormy southwestern Nevada.

The list of 32 passengers and crew of three included the names of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Paget, 21107 Victor St.; Mr. and Mrs. William R. Preder, 804 Portola Ave.; and Mrs. Preder's brother, Clarence Pinkham. Paget won Torrance's Distinguished Citizen Award in 1959.

The plane, owned and operated by Hawthorne, Nev., Airlines, was last heard from at 4:06 a.m. Tuesday shortly after takeoff from Hawthorne, Nev., bound for Burbank.

**THE AIRCRAFT** departed from Long Beach Monday evening, and was due back at Burbank at 6 a.m. Tuesday. March and Hamilton Air Force bases have pooled their efforts and placed some 10 search planes over the southwest Nevada area. Ground parties have also been dispatched.

Officials of the airline report pilot Fred Hall of Burbank had four hours of fuel aboard the plane at the time of takeoff and may have had enough time to

### City Crews To Observe Holiday

City rubbish collection crews will observe Washington's Birthday by taking Friday off and then working Saturday—Washington's Birthday.

As a result, rubbish collections normally made on Friday will be made Saturday this week.

The unique turn of events comes about because the rubbish crews will observe the holiday with other city employees—by taking Friday off. But, to maintain schedules, they will report to work Saturday morning to complete the weekly collections.

set the plane down on a flat area or lake in that region.

**SEVERE** storm and icing conditions that prevailed during the plane's last report, however, make this unlikely, airline officials pointed out.

Weather conditions have grounded all other commercial flights in Nevada, according to

(See PLANE, Page A-2)

### Crash Kills Pilot

A Hawthorne man was killed Monday evening when his small plane crashed in a heavily populated North Redondo Beach neighborhood.

The dead man, pilot of the single-engine plane, was identified as Fred Harold Rasmussen, 3863 W. 109th St. Rasmussen was the son-in-law of L. Milt Isbell, president of the Torrance-Lomita Board of Realtors.

The plane crashed about 7 p.m. in the 2500 block of Gates Avenue. The aircraft missed homes in the area and no one on the ground was injured.

**WITNESSES** said the plane came down in a spiraling movement, tearing off high tension power lines. It missed the roof of a two-story home, smashed into a garage, then flipped into an adjacent yard.

Ed Cisney, 2522 Gates Ave., told investigators he was in the garage at his home when the plane struck the garage roof and flipped off. Part of the garage roof was shattered, but Cisney escaped uninjured.

Another witness, Ingrid Sandler of 2520-A Gates Ave., said she saw a "big white explosion" when the plane struck power lines. "It really lit up everything," the 14-year-old girl added.

Funeral arrangements for Rasmussen are pending at the Stone and Myers Mortuary.